

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W
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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4788

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PORG PBOR MO SS SP

SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA IN ICJ; MOROCCAN CASE SAID TO BE READY

1. MARCH 6 EDITION OF SEMI-OFFICIAL MAROC SOIR REPORTED
PROMINENTLY MARCH 5 CONFERENCE ON USURPED MOROCCAN
TERRITORIES ORGANIZED BY LE MATIN - MAROC SOIR PUBLISHER
MOULAY AHMED ALAOUI FOR DELEGATION OF MOROCCAN WORKERS
VISITING HERE FROM EUROPE IN CONNECTION WITH THRONE DAY.
TWO MOROCCAN INTELLECTUALS, MOHAMED EL GHARBI AND
AHMED ASSA, ATTENDED, AS WELL AS HAMDALI MAA AL AYINE,
PRESUMABLE ONE OF MEMBERS OF FAMOUS SAHARA TRIBE THAT
GOM PERIODICALLY IMPORTS TO LEND AUTHENTICITY TO SUCH
PROCEEDINGS. EL GHARBI (NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH MFA'S LEGAL
ADVISOR, MUSTAPHA EL GHARBI) IS AUTHOR OF BOOK ON SAHARA WHICH
HAS RECEIVED HEAVY GOM ACCLAIM AND ASSA, EWO COMES FROM
PROMINENT IRAN FAMILY, RECENTLY AWARDED "ORDER OF SUPERIOR
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INTELLECTUAL MERIT" BY KING HASSAN FOR PRO-REGIME WORK

ENTITLED "THE MOROCCAN MIRACLE."

2. ARTICLE INDICATED THAT GOM HAD PREPARED ITS BRIEF FOR SUBMISSION TO ICJ BY MARCH 27 DEADLINE. THIS WOULD INCLUDE 212 DOCUMENTS "PROVING IRREFUTABLY" THAT SAHARA WAS MOROCCAN. AMONG THESE WERE PAPERS BEARING SIGNATURES OF SPANISH QUEEN SHOWING THAT OCCUPATION OF PRESIDIOS HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN AS VENGEANCE FOR MUSLIM RULE IN ANDALUSIA. EL GHARBI DISPUTED RECENT SPANISH CENSUS IN SAHARA. (FIGURES HE CITED WERE 88,000 TOTAL POPULATION, INCLUDING, BESIDES OTHER SPANIARDS, 22,000 SPANISH SOLDIERS.) HE ARGUED THAT TWO-THIRDS OF ALL SAHRAOUI NOW LIVE IN MOROCCO. INCORRECT TO CONTEND, EL GHARBI SAID, THAT SAHARA WAS TRUE DESERT SINCE SOME AREAS CAPABLE OF BEING DEVELOPED AGRICULTURALLY. SPANISH HAD NEGLECTED THESE POSSIBILITIES IN ORDER TO KEEP SAHRAOUI IN "STATE OF SUBORDINATION AND ALIENATION." ALAOUI SUMMED UP BY SAYING THAT ICJ WOULD DECIDE IN FAVOR OF MOROCCO, AND THAT THERE WOULD THEN BE TWO ALTERNATIVES: ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATION BY SPAIN OR RESORT TO "OTHER MEANS" BY MOROCCANS, AN ACTION WHICH WORLD OPINION WOULD SUPPORT.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE HEARD ELSEWHERE THAT GOM HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN SEARCH FOR DOCUMENTS WHICH WOULD BOLSTER ITS CASE BEFORE ICJ. TO THIS END, ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE, RESEARCHERS HAVE BEEN SENT SOUTH TO LOOK FOR DOCUMENTS SUCH AS OLD APPOINTMENTS GIVEN TO LOCAL FIGURES AS ADMINISTRATORS FOR MOROVYAN SULTAN.
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